

By Heidi Hageman

a Jolla is best known for majestic coastlines, luxury boutique hotels, and an upscale selection of first-class dining destinations. Nestled in a corner of this coastal enclave is the burgeoning La Jolla Design District, which is now garnering equal momentum by attracting a discerning following of industry professionals, architects and interior sophisticates. Residing on a four-block stretch of Girard Avenue, the

thriving district had its genesis over two decades ago, and now boasts several of the top international contemporary and transitional design collections in the world.

With an array of offerings including furniture, accessories, hardware, art, textile, antiques, cabinetry and bed & bath, Girard Avenue's stylish appeal is complimented by highly educated experts offering concierge level service.

The design destination has now built up to over 25 plus showrooms—emerging as a unified powerhouse of independent retailers and coveted brands that are established on an international level. Some of the more recognized names scattering the district include: Roche Bobois, Waterworks, Kreiss Collection and Ligne Roset, but Girard is also home to several up and coming ateliers on the cutting edge of the industry.

Material Things is a one-of-a-kind showroom that stands at the forefront of innovative fabrics. Operated by Chad Patton, Material Things is the importer and nationwide distributor of NUNO, a contemporary textile design company based out of Japan.

"Up until now, people went straight to San Francisco or New York to find premium design collections," says Patton. "Girard Avenue has established quite a bit of credibility for not only providing luxury goods, but also for offering some of the most sought after international collections from all corners of the globe."

Nicki Coller is the owner of Everett Stunz, a newly re-vamped showroom showcasing bamboo-fiber towels, high thread count Sferra Egyptian cotton sheets and custom duvets. The luxury linen and bed store is the exclusive supplier of the Duxiana Bed in San Diego. "Girard Avenue has always held a certain cachet as a high-end shopping destination" says Coller. "It's mainly specialty businesses catering to a well-educated, style conscious customer."

In addition to a variety of home furnishing and accessory boutiques, The La Jolla Design District offers several specialty showrooms that focus on high-end items such as handcrafted art tile, custom windows and doors, innovative fabrics & textile, and high quality cabinetry. Many also flock to the district for its wide service capabilities, including showroom specialists that offer interior design support, as well as custom building and remodeling capabilities for both residential and commercial projects.



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